



*The Wisdom
of the Lord Teaches us*

Mary MacKillop College

Newsletter

Term 1
9 February 2018



*"Let our Courage
Rise."*

Mary MacKillop

Newsletter on our website

www.mackillopleongatha.catholic.edu.au/newsletter

also available on the College Parent Portal - PAM

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

This Weeks Prayer

Prayer for the Beginning of the New School Year

Dear Lord, as we begin this new school year, we gather once again as your community of believers. We thank you for the energy and the spirit that you renewed in us through the summer months.

We thank you for the time to enjoy our family and friends and to reflect on what is important in our lives. Let this year be marked by enthusiasm and love so that, with the inspiration of your Spirit, we may continue to grow in our faith.

Help us to fulfill Your hope for us with honest intentions and works of faith.

Let us be gentle with ourselves and bring laughter, joy and love to others.

We ask this in your name. Amen.

Welcome back to all our students and families for the 2018 school year. I hope you have all had a happy and relaxing holiday and are looking forward to another successful year. This is the Year of Youth in the Church – at Mary MacKillop College we are certainly doing our bit to celebrate our young people.

A special welcome to our 126 brand new Year 7 students and their families. There were lots of excited but nervous faces on Wednesday morning. I am pleased to report all of our new Year 7's are settling in well. Also, we extend a warm welcome to the new students in other year levels who commenced at the College. Our enrolment now stands at 590. This is the largest our College has ever been – we are proud to build on the work that has gone before.

Our College theme this year is "Let our Courage Rise", another of the quotes from our patron, St Mary of the Cross MacKillop. The theme was chosen by our student Mission Team and they have great plans to make it the inspiration for their work this year. I look forward to this unfolding as the year progresses.

On Monday (5 February) we held our Academic Achievement Presentations for the 2017 Year 12's. We were very pleased to welcome a large number of parents and supporters present with us. The assembly was delayed slightly while we brought more chairs for our visitors.

The presentation of the College Dux for 2017 is the key part of the assembly. We were pleased to present our Dux for 2017, Julia Enter (ATAR 96.95). Julia addressed the assembly, expressing her gratitude for the care she received in Mary MacKillop College and encouraging her peers to make the most of their opportunities. Julia commences Arts/Law at Monash University this year, we look forward to her continuing success. We are grateful for our sponsored Academic Awards: The Cardell Accountants Group prize for Humanities and Social Sciences was awarded to Madalyn Waugh and the Leongatha Medical Group prize for Maths & Science was awarded to Harrison Marshall. We are proud of and congratulate all our high achievers – they have set a great example for our students to follow.

The other special award presented was the Rhonda Malone Memorial Bursary. Gifted by her husband Michael & family, the award is to support the studies of a student who will commence in Nursing or a related field the following year. It is hoped that the recipient will go on to contribute to the community just as Rhonda did. The award was presented by Rhonda's Daughter Janelle. I am delighted to report the awardee is Hayden Jones, who will be studying nursing at Monash this year. We wish all our graduates every success in their studies.

Next week we have had two very important whole school events. On Tuesday (13 February) we will hold our annual Swimming Sports at Mirboo North. We look forward to the enthusiastic leadership by the House Leaders and senior students and excellent participation by all students. A full report will be in the next newsletter.

On Wednesday (14 February) we will hold our Opening Mass and also commemorate Ash Wednesday in Pioneer Hall. Mass commences at 9.30am. I encourage all parents, guardians and friends to come along to both of these events.

David Leslie
Principal



"Let our Courage Rise" Mary MacKillop

ACHIEVERS AWARDS FOR YEAR 12

RHONDA MALONE AWARD



Pictured Left to Right:
Michael Malone
Recipient:
Hayden Jones
Janelle Malone



Cardell Accountants Award
Humanities & Social Sciences
Madalyn Waugh



College Dux
Julia Enter



Leongatha Medical Group Award
Science & Mathematics
Harrison Marshall

ACADEMIC AWARDS

ACCOUNTING - Meghan Minogue

BIOLOGY - Belinda Denbrok

CHEMISTRY - Ben Phillips

FOOD STUDIES - Molly Clark

HEALTH & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

- Eva Lindsay

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (VCE/VET)

- Zac James

MATHS METHODS

- Ben Phillips & Harrison Marshall

PHYSICAL EDUCATION - Tanya Dyke

PHYSICS - Harrison Marshall

RELIGION AND SOCIETY - Harriett Steenholdt

ART - Elsie Bishop & Amber Bessell-Browne

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT - Breanna Ross

ENGLISH - Julia Enter

GEOGRAPHY - Gabrielle Holian

HISTORY - Daniel Piasente

LEGAL STUDIES - Anna Kirk

LITERATURE - Madalyn Waugh

MATHS FURTHER - Sara Riseley

MATHS SPECIALIST - Ben Phillips

MUSIC SOUND PRODUCTION (VCE/VET)

- Ethan Bath

PSYCHOLOGY - Julia Enter

VISUAL COMMUNICATION AND DESIGN

- Stephanie Hrvatin

Hit the ground running:

Welcome to the start of 2018 and to that of a new school year. I hope all the members of our Mary MacKillop College community have had a well-rested break and are ready to engage in another full year of challenging educational experiences.

The dust has settled for the New Year and by now the new Year 7's and their families are coming to realise secondary schooling is a whole new ball game. These times of adolescent's and emerging adulthood focus more on the individual and the effective relationships that they will be forming over the years with us. Part of our role at the College is to assist parents with this transition in this new learning environment.

If you want the best outcomes for your child then it is important that you become involved in as many aspects of your child's education as practical. The involvement of parents helps break down the mystique about school that can exist for some children. Their chances of success are better when they see school as an extension of home rather than merely an institution for learning.

Positive Parent Participation & PAM:

Positive parent participation demonstrates to children that you value learning as well as their school. Children copy many of their parents' views so your positive attitude to school and learning is catching.

Participating as a parent can be much broader than helping out in the classroom. There is a range of simple things you can do at home that will assist our teachers to maximise the learning of your child. These include: talking with your child about their day, hearing young learners read, helping with homework and making sure kids go off to school happy, healthy and having had plenty of sleep.

Welcome to our College community for 2018. You would have hopefully realized by now the importance of good communication to assist in your child's learning journey. It is therefore imperative that there are open channels of communication between home and school. At Mary MacKillop College students access their work and assessment tasks through the online portal called SIMON. This wonderful resource informs students of their daily timetable, lists the daily notices and ensures that students have quick and ready access to key learning materials. PAM...the "Parent Access Module" allows you, as parents and guardians, access to much of this information as well.

We also use PAM for progressive and continuous reporting and any information that we are wanting to send home to parents/guardians. Your password can be changed but please note that once this has been changed the College can only help you by resetting your password if forgotten. (If you have changed your password from the one assigned this will still be correct so please disregard the Password in the box).

PAM brings together a number of different systems the College used for student management in the past, these now brought together allow Parents access to a range of student information that was not previously available away from the College. Parents will now be able to gain access to students work when marked, see upcoming work submission dates, view teacher feedback and obtain school reports.

Parent-Teacher interview bookings will also be run through PAM and further information regarding Parent Teacher Interviews and when bookings become open will be sent home shortly.

PAM access codes will be individually posted to all families this coming week, if you have any questions in relation to this please contact the helpful office staff at the College.

High School Musical ~ 'We're all in this together':



Earlier in the week we held an information session for students interested in participating in the College Musical – Disney's High School Musical'. Over 200 students attended the briefing which outlined the basic requirements and student expectations of participating in such a large scale event. Audition information and times were also discussed and these have been sent to students and posted all around the College. Expanding on the State wide success of last year's production of Blood Brothers we envisage to have a larger and more diverse cast, with dance routines, basketball routines as well as the traditional singing and acting. There are also many back stage and behind the scenes supporting roles that need students as well. Any interested students are encouraged to speak with Director – Ms Kalos.



FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL - LEARNING AND TEACHING

Active learning @ Mary MacKillop College:

Over the last couple of years the College has been working with the Catholic Education Office collecting data through surveys and consultation on student performance, transition, literacy and numeracy, student engagement, wellbeing and learning relationships. What has clearly emerged from our story is we need to assist all our students in growing their resiliency and capacity to be more active in their own learning journeys. The journey from adolescents to emerging adults is fraught with trials and tribulations both in and out of the classroom and if we as a school can build, our students up to take more of an active role in their education the benefits will be great.

In 2018 we will be continuing our focus on creating opportunities to help students uncover the path to achieve their personal best and to encourage them to become lifelong learners. We will continue to focus approaches (Characteristics of Active learners) which our consultative process has highlighted as major priority to embrace this new way of thinking and behaving.

Taking Ownership
Thinking Deeply
Making Connections
Being Courageous

Best wishes for all educational pursuits



Sam Wright Deputy
Principal Learning and
Teaching

Pictured Left to Right

Back Row: Bron Kalos, Elly Poletti, Brooke Materia,
Holly Knight and Jacob Beckwith

Front Row: Issac Muldoon, Aiden Clark, David Leslie
and Sam Wright

FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL—WELLBEING AND ORGANISATION

Welcome back to 2018. It is lovely to sense the anticipation of a new school year, one filled with a vast range of opportunities for not only the students and staff but the wider school community. I would like to especially welcome not only the Year 7's to the school, but the new students in Years 8-12 and staff as well. I hope that you feel a sense of connectedness and belonging within the Mary MacKillop community very soon.

At Mary MacKillop College South Gippsland, community and caring for others is paramount. We have a strong focus on student and staff wellbeing, supported by a shared set of values and programs in order for everyone to feel safe, valued and well cared for throughout their school years and beyond.

Feeling comfortable at school and being happy and healthy has a direct impact on each student's capacity for optimal learning - and for them to be the best they can be in their chosen field. Equally, enjoying school and being engaged in learning influences a student's wellbeing – in particular their confidence and resilience.

The relationship between wellbeing and learning, therefore, is critical to the development of the whole person. This is why, at Mary MacKillop, we focus on the social, emotional, psychological, spiritual, moral and intellectual development of our students. Our students are supported and motivated to develop their strengths, to grow and learn from challenges and complexities, and to develop positive relationships as their foundation for learning.

A commitment to fostering growth and enabling students to flourish underpins Wellbeing at Mary MacKillop. Teachers and student support services staff work together to help students learn effectively and develop positive attitudes and behaviours.

In 2018 we will develop a culture of student safety and wellbeing by:

- Encouraging the empowerment and participation of all students in enhancing their wellbeing and safety
- Educating our community about student wellbeing and safety

On Wednesday 21st February, the first of a number of community education sessions takes place. The school will host Susan McLean, one of the country's leading cybersafety experts to discuss how to keep your children safe in the digital space. The presentation commences at 6.45pm in Pioneer Hall.

To the families new to the school, I encourage you to make contact with your child's Homeroom Teacher, Wellbeing Coordinator or Year Level Director. The key role of these people is to work alongside the students to ensure they can achieve positive learning outcomes. Over the break there have been some positive changes to the co-ordination of the wellbeing needs for students. The new teams are listed below:

Deputy Principal Wellbeing and Organisation	Kieran O'Dwyer	kodwyer@mmcrc.catholic.edu.au
Sub School Directors	Courtney Blair (Senior) Gerard Gordon (Middle) Richard Muranty (Junior)	cblair@mmcrc.catholic.edu.au ggordon@mmcrc.catholic.edu.au rmuranty@mmcrc.catholic.edu.au
Sub School Wellbeing Co-ordinators	Bronwyne Kalos (Senior) Kate Lafferty (Middle) Nicole Dudman (Junior)	bkalos@mmcrc.catholic.edu.au klafferty@mmcrc.catholic.edu.au ndudman@mmcrc.catholic.edu.au
Transition Co-ordinator	Jacinta Johnston	jjohnston@mmcrc.catholic.edu.au
Student Counsellor	Melinda Licciardi	mlicciardi@mmcrc.catholic.edu.au

Kieran O'Dwyer
Deputy Principal Wellbeing
and Organisation



NEW SCHOOL BUSES



The College has taken delivery of 4 new school buses. The buses will service approximately 180 students travelling from Phillip Island/ Wonthaggi, Grantville/ Inverloch, Lang Lang/ Korumburra and Cape Paterson.



Thank you to Westernport Buses and Creative Aspect for their work in getting the buses operational! Keep a look out for their bright design on the road!

YEAR 12 RETREAT



The theme for the Year 12 Retreat was 'There where you are you will find God' and throughout the retreat we began to realise that this is very true in our lives. Upon arriving at the retreat Mr Ryan spoke with us about how the retreat is "that moment before the beginning of a race where you can just relax before the starting gun goes off and the race begins". Now that we have returned to school and commenced our final year of formal education, we can see the significance in this and appreciate the opportunities that the retreat provided us with. Year 12 Retreat was all about coming together as a year level and building our relationships with each other and our faith. It provided us with opportunities for reflection as we prepare to strive for success in our endeavours this year.

The Year 12 Retreat consisted of small group activities, from baking cakes to mandala drawing as well as chances to just relax with our friends. Our musical and drama talents were put to the test with performances from the whole year level providing entertainment and long lasting memories. We ended our time at Grantville Lodge with an early morning Outdoor Mass conducted by Fr. Martin Tanti, which provided another opportunity to reflect and prepare for the demanding year ahead in beautiful surroundings.

Thank you to the retreat staff for their support and guidance over the 3 days.

Meg, Ziara, Bailey and Jackson



MARY MACKILLOP COLLEGE

House Swimming Sports

Tuesday 13 February

Mirboo North Swimming Pool

- ◆ Students may wear sports uniform on the day and change into house colours at the pool
- ◆ Students must apply sunscreen, wear a hat and a shirt at all times unless they are competing in an event
- ◆ Students who are going directly to the pool must supply a note in writing to their homeroom teachers, signed by parents prior to the day. These students must also check in at the pool with their homeroom teacher to ensure their attendance is recorded

AT SCHOOL

- ◆ Normal beginning to the day and homeroom
- ◆ 9.05am assemble at front of the College in Homerooms
- ◆ Teachers will travel with their Homerooms on the buses
- ◆ House supervisors please make sure students go to house areas
- ◆ House captains organise students
- ◆ All students must heed the sun smart message ie: hat, shirt and sunscreen



First Races: Fashion parade at 9.40am followed by U13 Males 50m freestyle
Lunch: 12.05pm - 12.20pm
Last Race: 2.00pm U21 Relay
Presentations: 2.10pm (no free swim allowed)
Depart: 2.40pm - on return to the College all students must attend homeroom for attendance to be marked

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE COLLEGE'S COMMITMENT TO CHILD SAFETY PLEASE SEE THE COLLEGE WEBSITE

PARENTS AND FRIENDS

Swimming Sports are fast approaching (Tuesday 13th Feb) and the P&F are looking for volunteers to lend a hand with our fundraising BBQ at the Mirboo North pool on this day. If there are any parents, grandparents, or friends who would like to help out, we would love to hear from you!! Please contact the College office on 5662 4255 and leave your details, we will be in touch.

**There will be BBQ snags in bread available at the swimming sports for students to buy \$2 EACH.
Bring along your change, grab a snag in bread**



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Shibuya Japanese High School are planning a return visit to Mary MacKillop College!

11 Japanese students and 1 teacher will be arriving on Thursday 8th March 2018 for 12 days (departing 20 March).

Would you like to be a Host Family?



If you are able to home-stay a Japanese student, please contact Mrs Carly Kitchingman at the College.
A payment to cover hosting expenses will be offered.

BELL TIMES 2018

HOMEROOM	8.55am	9.02am
PERIOD 1	9.05am	9.55am
PERIOD 2	9.55am	10.45am
RECESS	10.45am	11.10am
PERIOD 3	11.10am	12.00pm
PERIOD 4	12.00pm	12.50pm
LUNCH	12.50pm	1.35pm
PERIOD 5	1.35pm	2.25pm
PERIOD 6	2.25pm	3.15pm
HOMEROOM	3.17pm	3.20pm

HOW TO KEEP YOUR CHILDREN SAFE IN THE DIGITAL SPACE

PRESENTED BY

**SUSAN
McLEAN**

**AUTHOR OF SEXTS,
TEXTS AND SELFIES**

Parents and guardians of
primary and secondary age
students are invited to attend a
free information session to find
out about the many issues being
faced by young people using the
internet and social media.

Students need not attend.

RSVP by Friday 16th February
for seating purposes to
ckitchingman@mmcrc.catholic.edu.au



**FREE
PARENT
EVENT**

"What Susan doesn't know about Cybersafety is not worth knowing. She is absolutely brilliant and her presentations are dynamic and entertaining. She has the unique ability to connect with each audience from young people to adults".
Dr Michael Carr-Gregg (Adolescent Psychologist)



DATE: WEDNESDAY 21ST FEBRUARY 2018

TIME: 6.45PM

VENUE: MARY MACKILLOP COLLEGE SOUTH GIPPSLAND - PIONEER HALL

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Did you know Students are not to text their parents if they are ill

All students are to please follow the procedure below, do not text parents directly as this leads to class disruption. A student who requests to go to the First Aid room must have a note in his/her planner from the classroom teacher explaining the ailment. The planner must then be taken to the office where the office staff will sign the student into the First Aid room and enter the time of entrance and exit. **The office staff will call parents if your child needs further attention.** Please do not contact parents directly via SMS/email etc. If your child contacts you then please ask them to tell their teacher that they are unwell and we will call you.

Did you know A note must be supplied in the event of an absence

Student Absences - In addition to notifying the school if your child is absent, parents or guardians **must send a note to the Homeroom Teacher upon his/her return**, providing an explanation for the absence. All schools are obliged to record a reason for **EVERY** absence from school.

Did you know ... We are unable to make announcements during class time

Early Dismissal - **Please note that we cannot call classes for parents to collect students or pass on messages.** This interrupts classes which may be running tests, exams etc.

Parents need to complete the early dismissal note in the back of the student planner or send a note. This note is to be given to the Homeroom Teacher in exchange for a class pass. This will allow students to leave at the required time, preferably not during lessons. **We are unable to make announcements during class time.**

More details regarding Communication Procedures are in the front of your child's student planner.

Did you know ... Bus Passes

Bus passes must be applied for through student reception with **48 hours notice**. Bus drivers will not accept a note from a parent—the pass must be issued by the College. Just handing a note in at the office does not automatically mean a bus pass will be issued. Please note that Bus passes **will not** be issued for sporting or social purposes. This year passes to Poowong, Nyora, Outtrim, Arawata, Nerrena and Mirboo North will not be issued under any circumstances due to the buses being full. The capacity of other buses may also change throughout the year.

We appreciate your help with the above, thank you.

WAYS YOU CAN RECEIVE THIS NEWSLETTER

You can view the fortnightly newsletter in one of the following ways...

1. On the College Website or on PAM (Parent Access Module)
2. You can request an emailed copy be sent to you by forwarding your preferred email info@mmcrc.catholic.edu.au
3. Or requesting a hard copy to be sent home with your student
4. Or by downloading the Flexibuzz App 

If we don't hear from you regarding **Option 2 or 3** it will be assumed that you are happy with **Option 1 or 4**

IMPORTANT DATES AND REMINDERS

AMBULANCE MEMBERS

All families are encouraged to be members of the ambulance service. At times of accidents or illness, the First Aid trained staff member/s in attendance will make a decision as to whether or not they should request the attendance of the ambulance service.

In doing so, the health and safety of the patient will be the only determining factor. **Ambulance membership, or potential costs to families will not be a point of consideration.** Such a decision will always be made with a conservative 'better safe than sorry' attitude. Parents (or next of kin for an adult) will always be contacted as soon as possible to that they may be in attendance when the ambulance arrives. A familiar staff member will always accompany a student to the hospital if the attending ambulance officer approves.

Thankyou

MEDICAL ACTION PLANS

Anaphylaxis, Asthma, Diabetes & Epilepsy

If your child has a medical condition including anaphylaxis, asthma, diabetes or epilepsy and you have not already supplied us with an up to date medical action plan please could you contact the office. Medical Action Plans are required **as soon as possible** (these need to be completed and **signed by your Doctor**) and supplied along with any spare medication required, in a named plastic container ie: Ventolin with spacer, insulin/jelly beans, epi-pens etc.

The Medical Action Plans will be reviewed on any of the following occurrences (whichever happen earlier):

- * Annually
- * If the students medical conditions changes
- * When the student is to participate in an offsite activity, such as camps and excursions, or at special events conducted, organised or attended by the college

The College requests that spare medication is left in the college office for emergency use ie: Ventolin (spacers are required to be used at school), Epi-pen, hypo-kit/spare diabetes supplies etc). These must be in date and clearly Labelled with your child's name and supplied in a plastic/ Tupperware style plastic tub.

2018	
Tues 13 Feb	School Swimming Sports
Wed 14 Feb	Opening Mass and Ash Wednesday Mass
Tues 20 Feb	Parents & Friends Meeting 7.30pm
Tues 20 Feb	Interschool Swimming Sports
Wed 21 Feb	Susan McLean Cybersafety Presentation
Thurs 22 Feb	Senior Boys & Girls Cricket
Mon 26 Feb - Fri 2 Mar	Year 9 OEG Camp
Wed 28 Feb - Fri 2 March	Year 7 Camp
Wed 28 Feb - Fri 2 March	VCAL Camp
Fri 2 March	Year 7-10 Boys Super 8's Cricket Year 7-12 Girls Tennis Year 7-12 Boys & Girls Volleyball
Tues 6 March	Year 7 Welcome Mass
Fri 9 March	Year 7-10 Girls Super 8's Cricket Year 7-10 Boys Tennis
Mon 12 March	LABOUR DAY NO SCHOOL
Thurs 15 March	Gippsland Regional Swimming
Tues 20 March	House Athletics
Thurs 22 March Tues 27 March	Parent Student Teacher Interview
Thurs 29 March	LAST DAY OF TERM 1

UNIFORM SHOP

A small order of size 14 red shorts have arrived in the uniform shop. They are \$20 each.

UNIFORM SHOP & CANTEEN

Uniform Shop is open each Friday from 12.50pm - 1.35pm

P & F require helpers for Uniform Shop *Fridays 12.45pm – 1.30pm*

P & F also require helpers for Canteen which is open Monday - Friday

If you could lend a hand please contact the General Office with available dates and we will be in Contact.

Inviting Girls, Boys & Women Netballers of all ages
and abilities

**MT ECCLES NETBALL CLUB
REGISTRATION DAY**

**Thursday 22nd February 5.30 - 6.30 pm
At LDNA Courts
(behind the Leongatha Velodrome)**

**U11, U13, U15 & U17 Girls and Boys
A & B Grade Women**

No tryouts, everyone gets to play

We welcome players from all over South Gippsland &
Bass Coast

For queries contact the Club on
mounteccles@gmail.com
Or call
Julia Lomas on 0459 191 695



MEENIYAN JUNIOR BASKETBALL

Would like to invite any new players between the age of
7 - 17 years to come and join our competition

**Section 2 & 3 - from 3.45pm Friday Nights
Section 4 - Wednesday Nights
Season starts on Friday 16th February**

**Contact - Kim 0427 346 048 or 5663 6252
Contact - Darlene 0417 640 035 or 5664 0035**

Could all new players or any players not playing or
unavailable the 1st game please contact the above people.
If you played last season you will automatically be put in a
team unless you have already advised otherwise. Names
must be in by Friday 9th Feb.

Teams and times will be published in the Star on Tuesday
13th Feb.

**LEONGATHA
BASKETBALL**

**Autumn Season Registrations now open
Juniors and Seniors**

Monday 19th & Tuesday 20th February

Entries close Friday 9th February

Monday Nights : Girls UIO's, 12's & 14's Boys U17's &
Senior Men

Tuesday Nights: Boys UIO's, 12's & 14's, Girls U17's &
Women

**Children must be 7 years prior to commencement of
season**

All registrations online at Registration Leongatha
Basketball SPORTS TG

**Enquiries: Dan Monaghan 0458 641 234
Enquiries: Joel Langstaff 0419 623 766**

TOWN BUS FARES FOR 2018

Single/One Way	\$1.20
Return/Two Way	\$2.40
Weekly (Monday-Friday)	\$11.20
Term 1	\$67.20
Term 2	\$83.20
Term 3	\$78.40
Term 4	\$84.80
Half Yearly	\$156.80
Yearly	\$313.60

It is an offence to travel without a ticket

Please have correct change if possible

Enquiries to Winbus Pty Ltd - 0428 551 145



MATHS HELP

Year 7 - 12

Tuesdays - Room 17 - Lunchtime

ALL STUDENTS WELCOME

